

-Fairchild
Perry Homestead
Stratford, Connecticut

HABS CONN. 65

HABS
CONN.

1 - STRAT

4.

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Connecticut

Historic American Buildings Survey
Harold H. Davis, District Officer
29 Whitney Ave., New Haven, Conn.

PERRY HOMESTEAD

Stratford, Fairfield County, Conn.

Owner: Benjamin Thomas Fairchild, 1086 W Broad St., Stratford

Date of Erection: 1750

Architect or Builder: Not Known

Present Condition: Fair

Number of Stories: Two and One-half

Materials of Construction: Stone foundation
Stone chimney interior--brick above roof
Shingled sidewalls and roof

Other Existing Records: Colonial Dames Series
Old Houses of Connecticut

List of Photographs:

1. Front Elevation
2. Rear Elevation
3. Entrance Hall and Stairs
4. Detail

HABS CONN. 65

HABS
CONN.

1. STRAT

4

PERRY HOMESTEAD
STRATFORD, CONNECTICUT

This ancient dwelling stands on South Broad St., erected more than one hundred and eighty years ago. It retains its original substantial character, and by its venerable appearance forms striking witness to the satisfactory workmanship of the building. Shade trees, shrubbery, and clinging vines envelop it with an atmosphere of dreams and fancies; but old traditions seem to have vanished into thin air.

The main rooms are large and finished according to the prevailing style of the day. The plain panelling used has been well preserved. The fire place in the kitchen was enormous containing all the customary fixtures and conveniences of pioneer days - with a large oven and varied effectiveness. The extension at the rear, built many years after the main structure was reared, likewise contained a brick oven - probably for summertime. The extension was moved from the John Benjamin homestead, an adjoining property.

The Perry family purchased the house from the Edward estate in 1844. The house remained as of the Perry family until 1933, when it was sold to Benjamin Thomas Fairchild. Mr. William M. Perry and his wife, Nancy Wilcoxson, were the happy parents of ten children, five of them being born in this house.

Mr. Perry was a manufacturer of shoes and boots, and owned a factory in Stratford. During the Civil War he employed quite a large force of men and women in the making of these articles for the Government. After the War he became a grocer for a number of years, Finally resuming the manufacturing of boots shoes in doing part of the work for a factory in Milford.

Mr. Perry was a public spirited citizen, serving the town as School Committee Man, Judge of Probate and member of the State Legislature.

This picturesque homestead, like many others in town, has not been so changed as to forfeit its old time attractiveness.

Source of Information: Colonial Dames Series
Old Houses of Connecticut

Author:

John F. Flanagan

Approved:

Hazel N. Davis Feb. 27 - 1939